

# **UCLA**

## **UCLA Women's Law Journal**

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# FOREWORD

We are proud to include in this issue an Essay that begins to define the issues that the live symposium will present. It is written by a truly anonymous author and, while written as a parody, the Essay uncovers the multiple ways that discrimination manifests itself as a force against women in academia.

In accord with the founding members of the *Journal* who endeavoured to “encompass the experiences of *all* women” within feminist scholarship,<sup>1</sup> this Volume presents a diversity of viewpoints and issues. It includes articles that address sex discrimination in Japan, same-sex rights, and an article critiquing the “myth of a model minority” from the perspective of a Jewish woman. This Volume also introduces a practical application of progressive legal discourse, *Protecting Families: Standards for Child Custody in Same-Sex Relationships*. Publishing the *Standards* furthers the *Journal*’s continuing goal of turning progressive legal theory into practice. The *Standards* provide a practical tool for same-sex couples with children to use to guide their behavior when they break-up.

As we enter the new century and another decade of publishing feminist legal scholarship, we must not only assess where we have been and where we are now, but also where we are heading. The *Journal* welcomes the twenty-first century with optimism and a renewed commitment to striving to obtain equity by publishing “a more encompassing feminist jurisprudence.”<sup>2</sup> We can imagine a future that embraces the freedom, equality, and security that the law should provide to all people. With such a future in mind, the *UCLA Women’s Law Journal* must continue to confront and question current laws, norms, and practices and shape them in a way that allows us to achieve our goals. Reinforced in our resolve to attack inequality at its very roots, nothing is beyond our inquiry or immutable to our critique.

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1. Stephanie H. Villafuerte & Laura E. Reece, *Foreword*, 1 *UCLA WOMEN’S L.J.* 1,1 (1991).

2. The inaugural edition of the *UCLA Women’s Law Journal* laid out the following goals:

The *UCLA Women’s Law Journal* is committed to diversity within feminist legal scholarship. We believe that feminist scholarship must endeavour to encompass the experiences of *all* women. . . . [W]e hope to place at the center of our journal the perspectives of women of color, lesbians, impoverished women, physically challenged women, and other underrepresented voices. The touchstone of a more encompassing feminist jurisprudence is acknowledging difference with accuracy and without exclusion.

*Id.*

No one is safe as long as anyone is physically and spiritually violated. Everyone is responsible to her/himself and to society to do what is possible to change the status quo. We must imagine a different world. If we can dream of a safe place, surely we can build one.<sup>3</sup>

We thank the UCLA administration and faculty for their support and guidance. We are particularly indebted to our faculty advisors for their contributions and advice. We also thank Professor Frances E. Olsen for her time and valuable advice in planning our symposium. We acknowledge the hard work of the Articles department who edited a piece to be published in the upcoming symposium issue. Finally, we express our appreciation and admiration for the talented and dedicated *Journal* members who have made Volume 10 and the symposium exceptional contributions to feminism.

COURTNEY A. POWERS & MELANIE HANSON SARTORIS  
Editors in Chief  
*UCLA Women's Law Journal*  
Volume 10

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3. EMILIE BUCHWALD ET AL., TRANSFORMING A RAPE CULTURE 3 (1993).